

ADDENDUM 2010 STATE COST SHARE PROGRAM

These are changes to the 2009 State Cost Share Manual

- KSW2: The addition of Heavy Use Area installation through gates
Maximum size: 600 square feet installed.
- KSW3: Under the measure Temporary Fence it should read 5 paddocks.
- KSW5: Should read manure tons instead of the \$15 and \$10 maximum and language was changed in the practice description.
- KSW6: replace (408) Forest Land Erosion Control Systems with
(654) Road/Trail/Landing Closure and Treatment & (655) Forest Trails and Landings
Also, the addition of (612) Tree & Shrub Establishment
- KSW10: Change the practice requirements by eliminating the words “shall apply only to HEL.”
- KSW12: Change the practice requirements from filter strips to field border to allow landowners more eligibility for the stream bank practice. To allow NRCS District Conservation to access the amount of field border required.
- 2010 NRCS State Average Cost List will be used to determine the approved practice amount and final payment to applicant will not exceed 75% of the cost of the practice and not to exceed individual practice limits (\$7,500) and applicant limits of (\$20,000).
- See attached practice descriptions for KSP53 “Integrated Crop Management”, MRB11 “Precision Nutrient Management Incentive” and KWP8 – “On-Farm Fallen Animal Composting”. Also, copies of two publications from UK-CES on composting.

KSP53 - INTEGRATED CROP MANAGEMENT

Purpose

By using this practice as a system, it will help in the reduction of water, land, and air pollution and preserve soil fertility.

Application

Application to cropland to ensure that pesticides, nutrients, or both are applied in an efficient and environmentally sound manner while preserving the land primarily for agricultural production.

Requirements

KSP53 may not be approved for a county unless there is verification that qualified technical resources will be available. There is no limitation for the number of eligible farms in approved counties.

To be eligible for cost sharing producers must have an ICM system of farming developed in writing by an approved technical specialist (federal, state, or private) that will ensure that nutrients and pesticides are applied in an efficient and environmentally sound manner without reducing the operation's profitability.

Additionally, producers must provide adequate written documentation from the technical expert specifying pre- and post-application rates and methods for all nutrients and pesticides.

Producers must also agree to participate in the program for three (3) years.

Cost Share Policy

If Component is:	Authorized	Not Authorized
Pest management activities including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">♦Biological pest control services♦Crop rotations♦Field scouting♦Planting host crops♦Ridge till	✓	
Fertilizer management activities including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">♦Cover and green manure crops♦Grasses and legumes in rotation♦Leaf tissue analysis♦Manure testing♦Soil testing	✓	
A comprehensive cropping system that covers the major components of an ICM system already adopted by the producer.		✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none">♦Fence♦Measures primarily for the prevention of air pollution, unless the measures also have soil and water conserving benefits.♦Plans for which the primary result is an increase in production.♦Purchase of equipment		✓

ICM System Development

NRCS, CES, or private consultants who are certified by the Commission may develop ICM farming systems for producers. The Commission may authorize any combination of entities listed to be technically responsible for the practice.

NRCS or CES

The agency must have sufficient resources and skills to develop ICM systems.

Conservation Districts

When private consultants are selected, they must meet specific criteria. They must:

- Be certified by the Commission
- Possess a minimum of 30 college credit hours in any one or combination of the following:
Soils, agronomy, plant physiology, plant pathology, horticulture, entomology, weed science
- Have general knowledge of agricultural production principles
- Demonstrate significant experience in ICM or additional specific training in designing and implementing ICM systems
- Recertify their qualifications once every three years
- Document they have attended at least 40 hours of continuing education during the last three years at any or a combination of the following:
 - College courses in agronomy, entomology, weed science, range or other agricultural related coursework.
 - Attendance at workshops or tours sponsored by CES, land grant universities, or agricultural chemical representatives.
 - Attendance at national professional society meetings, such as the Soil and Water Conservation Society.

EXAMPLE: NRCS may develop an ICM system for a producer but a consultant or combination of consultants, CES and NRCS staff may implement the various system requirements.

NOTE: Private consultants that are affiliated or have a vested interest in the sales of agricultural chemicals or products will not be certified.

Conservation District Approval

ICM systems must be approved by the conservation district and should be compatible with and incorporated into a producer's compliance, conservation, or water plan, if applicable. The conservation district shall not approve ICM systems that will cause a significant increase in erosion or decreased water supply.

Technical Responsibility for SCP-245

Technical responsibility for certification of application shall be given to the agency that develops the ICM system. When a private consultant, who is certified by the Commission, develops the ICM system, NRCS will have a technical responsibility. The conservation district is ultimately responsible for certifying practice completion for payment purposes.

Acreage Minimum

Producers of non-specialty crops such as small grains, forage, hay, and row crops must enroll a minimum of 20 acres to participate in an ICM practice. Producers of specialty crops such as vegetables, berries, orchard, vineyards, or other specialty crops must enroll a minimum of 5 acres to participate in an ICM practice. Local districts may submit a group of applicants from the same watershed or close proximity that alone do not meet acreage requirements. These may be submitted as a Conservation District Environmental Grant - KSW9.

Examples of specialty and non-specialty crops:

<u>Non-specialty Crops</u>	<u>Specialty Crops</u>
Alfalfa	Berries
Barley	Fruits
Corn (silage or grain)	Ornamental horticulture
Grain sorghum	Potatoes
Hay	Tobacco
Oats	Truck crops
Pasture	
Popcorn	
Rye	
Soybeans	
Sunflowers	
Wheat	

AD-245

The conservation district office shall complete AD-245 when the producer has reported completion of the ICM practice and SCP-245 has been completed. The conservation district shall prepare AD-245 each year that the producer participates in the program. They should submit AD-245 to the Division of Conservation as soon as it has been completed. The conservation district should keep one copy in the producer's folder for future reference.

Cost Share Payments

Following approval, the Commission will submit the total cost share funds necessary for practice completion to the conservation district. Payments shall be made each year the producer uses the ICM system following the harvesting of crops and completion of AD-245. The total cost share funds received by the conservation district shall be distributed over the three-year period as mentioned earlier.

Partial Payments

When the ICM plan covers crops that are seeded at various times or are not seeded annually, partial payments may be issued after significant expenses incurred. Partial payments proportionate to the percent harvested may be made after harvest of **spring-seeded** crops. Final payment will be made after harvest of **fall-seeded** crops. For crops, vegetables or orchards that are not seeded annually or are planted several times per year, the Commission may establish guidelines for making one partial payment during the year after significant expenses are incurred.

Cost Share Rates and Limitations

The maximum cost share rate is 75 % of expenditures, not to exceed:

- \$15.00 per acre for small grains, forage, hay, row and other non-specialty crops.
- \$25.00 per acre for vegetables, berries, orchards, vineyards, or other specialty crops.
- \$7,500.00 total, including incentive payments, per program year.

Specifications

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to the standards set in the technical guide on file in the office of the local NRCS District Conservationist. Practice components are included in the following list:

Descriptive Title	Technical Practice Code	Life - Span
Nutrient Management Soil test Plant analysis Fertilizer application	590	1 yr.
Pest Management Pesticide application Biological control Cultural practices Resistant crop varieties	595	1 yr.
Record keeping	991	No Cost Share

MRBI 1 - Precision Nutrient Management Incentive

8/10/10

Purpose

The precision farming incentive payment is to encourage the adoption of variable-rate application of nutrients and pesticides while also promoting the use of GPS-enabled precision agricultural technology and equipment

Application

Application available to cropland producing annually planted crops and located within the Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watershed Initiative pre-selected 12 digit-HUC watersheds.

Eligibility for Cost Share

Procedure Needed	Procedure Purpose	Authorized	Not Authorized
Soil test requirements	Used to determine the variable-rate application (VRA)	✓	
Precision Nutrient Management Plan	To delineate and prescribe precision application of plant nutrients	✓	
Documentation and records of actual applications made based on the Precision Nutrient Management Plan	To certify the adoption and use of Precision Nutrient Management on applicable acres	✓	

Producer Eligibility

To be eligible for nutrient or pest management precision agriculture incentives, a producer will be in one of the following categories: 1) not currently applying these practices on cropland at the minimum levels as described; or 2) be willing to apply the practice(s) at a higher level as described.

Specifications

Specifications, plans, and construction must conform to the standards set in the technical guide on file in the office of the local NRCS District Conservationist. Companion or supporting practices are included in the following list:

Table 1

Practice Title	Practice Code	Lifespan
Nutrient Management	590	1 yr

Nutrient Management (590)

Practice Requirements

At least one variable-rate application (VRA) of nutrients has been made according to fertilizer recommendations based on grid soil samples representing areas no greater than 2.5 acres OR zone soil sampling representing areas of no greater than 20 acres. Zones must be based on soil survey data in addition to (a) yield data, (b) soil electrical conductivity data, and/or (c) aerial or satellite images.

Cost Share Rate

Practice requirements, plus VRA must be conducted using a vehicle equipped with a GPS-enabled guidance correction service. Incentive is \$12/acre and total cost of practice shall not exceed \$7,500.00 per program year. Approved applicant will be eligible for three consecutive year incentive payments and first payment will not be made until the bundle of required practices have been installed and certified by NRCS. Also, required is a copy of the previous year nutrient application records or self-certification by applicant of these rates.

Certification Requirements

- 1) Soil sampling maps with soil test recommendations (grid or zone) along with as-applied nutrient maps (map not required if no nutrients recommended) must be supplied to the NRCS District Conservationist for certification. Maps will include field boundaries, product applied, rate and date applied and a map legend.
- 2) Nutrient Management plan developed by NRCS or TSP that meets requirements set forth by NRCS Nutrient Management Standard.
- 3) Precision agriculture equipment for GPS-enabled navigation must be installed on Pre-dominate nutrient application equipment.
- 4) District Conservationist must certify application that producer has installed or has plans to install the required bundle/suite of best management practices to eligible for this practice incentive and receive payment.

KWP8 – On-Farm Fallen Animal Composting

8/10/10

Purpose

The application of this practice is for the composting of fallen animals on an impervious surface. This practice is only for disposal of animal mortality that occurs on the applicant's farm.

Application

This practice should be applied to any animal operation as an alternative method for the disposal of animal mortalities.

Eligibility for Cost Share

Type of Component	Used For	Authorized	Not Authorized
Land shaping, leveling, filling, excavation, site preparation.	Construction of one of the eligible listed practices in Table 1.	✓	
Equipment Rental (vibratory roller, etc.)	Construction of one of the eligible listed practices in Table 1.	✓	
Establishment of permanent herbaceous vegetative barriers (selected perennial seed varieties need to attain sufficient height, thickness, and stiffness to retard erosion and filter runoff water)	To reduce soil erosion. To prevent water pollution.		✓
Seeding materials (seed, lime, fertilizer, mulch, netting)	Seeding required to vegetate disturbed area during construction and is necessary to control erosion of an eligible listed practices in Table 1		✓
Cement	Construction of one of the eligible listed practices in Table 1.	✓	

Specifications

Table 1

Practice Title	Practice Code	Lifespan
Composting Bin Surface	UK-ID-166	10 Years
Impervious surface - concrete,		
soil cement, geo-textile fabric, etc.		

Cost Share Rate

Small Operations ≤ 100 head - \$2,500 and not to exceed 75% cost.
Medium Operations ≤ 200 head - \$5,000 and not to exceed 75% cost.
Large Operations ≤ 300 head - \$7,500 and not to exceed 75% cost.

***Notes**

Bin Size – Should be a 15 feet wide to accommodate different size loading buckets and height of the compost bin should accommodate a maximum compost pile height of 6 feet depth.

Small operations could get by with a single bin, medium operations should use two bins, and large operations should use a 3 bin system.

Program Development

- Composting operations are required to submit a permit application to the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, Office of State Veterinarian (502-564-3956).